

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2017
Wingate Hotel Conference Room
2007 N Oakes St
Helena, MT

Friday September 15, 2017
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carroll called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Ms. Stockton took roll call. Chair Carroll read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sean Morrison shared with the Board his story of receiving licensure under the newly revised Chapter 57 Administrator rules, which allowed him to return home to Montana and obtain employment at the Helena School District as the Assistant Special Education Administrator. Mr. Morrison expressed his appreciation to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Carroll requested the Financials to be pulled.
The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Scott Stearns seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

❖ **REPORTS – Sharon Carroll (Items 1-6)**

Item 1

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – 10 minutes
Sharon Carroll

Chair Carroll thanked Mr. Donovan and Ms. Stockton for their work in the office. Chair Carroll discussed the Executive Committee meeting the previous evening to review issues since the July meeting, the Content Standards Review conference call in August, and weekly calls she makes to the Board office. Chair Carroll also reviewed the October MEA-MFT Annual Conference in Missoula.

• **Election of Officers**

Mr. Donovan opened the floor for nominations.

Dr. Darlene Schottle moved to elect Ms. Sharon Carroll to Chair of the Board of Public Education. Mr. Jesse Barnhart seconded the motion.

No discussions or further nominations.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to nominate Dr. Darlene Schottle as Vice Chair. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

Chair Carroll thanked Dr. Schottle for all the work she has done for the Board. Dr. Schottle accepted the nomination.

No further nominations or discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board asked questions and a discussion was held regarding the current budget issues facing the state and how the proposed reductions will affect the Board.

Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 10 minutes
Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan discussed his conversation with Ms. MiKenzie Frost from the local Helena NBC affiliate regarding graduation requirements. Ms. Frost is working on a story discussing the issue and Mr. Donovan thanked Superintendent Arntzen for the referral. Mr. Donovan discussed the upcoming CSPAC and joint meeting with the Council of Deans in October at MSU.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – 10 minutes
State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

• Superintendent Goals

Superintendent Arntzen expressed thanks for the rainy weather and asked that everyone keep their thoughts with the Flathead area schools with the recent threats made there and announced that schools are still closed today. Additionally, the Seeley Lake students are now back to school with the fires winding down. Superintendent Arntzen distributed an outline of her goals for the year.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT – 15 minutes
Angela McLean

Ms. McLean addressed the Board and welcomed Mr. Stearns to the Board. Ms. McLean reviewed the busy schedule ongoing at the Commissioner's Office and their collaboration and work with the OPI, and thanked the OPI for work. Also discussed was a high-level review of goals for American Indian Success which was presented to the Board of Regents for review and approval. A total of 5 recommendations have been made to the Board for their review. Ms. McLean announced a track option at the MEA-MFT conference for high school students interested in teaching and that Ms. Lacey will bring a bus of 15 students from Great Falls to the conference for this track. Year two of the Educator Recruitment and Retention Task Force is in full swing and new members are on board to assist this effort. College Application Week will be held November 6-10 this year for high school seniors to apply for free to Montana University System schools, and results of the GEAR UP Grant are pending. A pilot program in Helena between Helena College and Helena Public Schools titled Co-Requisite Design is being offered to assist students with math remediation in which high school students who received a 17 or lower on their ACT math score can take their math remediation course through dual enrollment in high school to allow them to be ready to attend college upon graduation. This year's Complete College Montana Summit is scheduled for October 25th.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT – 15 minutes
Siri Smillie

Ms. Smillie discussed the Governor's "Back to School Tour" including stops in Red Lodge, Ekalaka, and as well as visiting a Pre-School program. Ms. Smillie discussed a couple of public Pre-School programs which are new this year. Ms. Smillie thanked the Superintendent and her staff on submitting the state ESSA Plan which the Governor approved. Ms. Smillie also discussed HB 390 which provided a match

for broadband funds to help leverage federal money to be made available to small districts to improve, increase, or provide broadband coverage in their schools. A brief update from the previous days Board of Regents meeting was also reviewed regarding collaboration to ensure student success from Pre-School to Higher Education.

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – 15 minutes
Molly DeMarco

Ms. DeMarco updated the Board with new activities for the 2017-2018 school year and some new improvements the recent school bond has provided. Ms. DeMarco also discussed the EDU101 course she is taking at CMR, including job shadowing they must complete each semester. Also discussed was the Educator Rising Club for those students of which she is the chair and the upcoming session at the MEA-MFT Conference in Missoula.

DISCUSSION

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Jo Bremner (Item 7)

Item 7 MSDB REPORT – 20 minutes
Donna Sorensen

Ms. Sorensen reported to the Board the recent activities since school has begun at the MSDB. Ms. Sorensen stated that today students will travel home for their first travel weekend. Ms. Sorensen answered board member questions. Chair Carroll thanked Ms. Bremner for her attendance at MSDB activities and for her work with the Collective Bargaining negotiations.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION TOOL
Sharon Carroll

Dr. Darlene Schottle moved to approve the Superintendent Evaluation Tool for the MSDB. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

Dr. Schottle explained the process of creating the tool. Ms. Sorensen thanked Dr. Schottle for her work. Ms. Lacey also commented on the practicality of the tool.

No further discussions.

Motion passed unanimously.

*******BREAK*******

❖ MACIE LIAISON – Mary Jo Bremner (Item 8)

Item 8 MACIE UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBER APPROVAL – 20 minutes
Mike Jetty

Mr. Mike Jetty presented the MACIE report to the Board reviewing the most recent meeting of the MACIE and updating the Board with presentations the Council heard including presentations from the Montana Apprenticeship Program, Special Education, GEAR UP, and Educator Rising to help recruit Native American students into the teaching profession. Childwise also presented to the Council, the Governor's Office, Indian Education updates, and several others. Ms. McLean thanked Mr. Jetty for the work he and Ms. Mandy Smoker-Broadus do in collaborating with Higher Education.

• **Approve Marcy Cobell-Gilbert to MACIE**
Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve Ms. Marcy Cobell-Gilbert to the MACIE. Ms. Tammy Lacey seconded the motion.

Chair Carroll questioned which tribe was nominating Ms. Cobell-Gilbert and Ms. Tammy Lacey answered that Ms. Cobell-Gilbert represents urban Indians and is the Director of Indian Education for the Great Falls Public School District.

No further discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 9- 12)

Item 9 ANNUAL DIGITAL ACADEMY UPDATE – 25 minutes Bob Currie

Mr. Currie presented the Annual Digital Academy Report to the Board. Mr. Currie discussed the budget, enrollment numbers, credit recovery courses versus original credit courses, and new availability in foreign language courses for middle school students. Mr. Currie also discussed the training courses that teachers take to become an online instructor for the Digital Academy. Currently there are approximately 150 teachers certified as online instructors for the Digital Academy. Mr. Currie also discussed how the Digital Academy and Ed Ready work together for students. Mr. Currie fielded questions from the Board and Superintendent Arntzen indicated that the Digital Academy is not included in the proposed 10% budget cuts that OPI forwarded to the Governor's office.

Item 10 FEDERAL UPDATE – 15 minutes Dr. Tim Tharp, Susie Hedalen

Dr. Tharp briefly updated the Board with new Federal guidelines.

Item 11 ESSA UPDATE – 15 minutes Dr. Tim Tharp, Susie Hedalen

Ms. Susie Hedalen updated the Board on the most recent happenings regarding the state ESSA plan which has been approved by Governor Bullock and submitted the previous day. Ms. Hedalen reviewed revisions to the plan since the presentation at the July BPE meeting including changes to Native American Languages, and Long-Term Goals. Ms. Hedalen emphasized that ESSA requires states to set goals to decrease achievement gaps and talked about what those minimums should look like. Ms. Hedalen showed comparisons of the Montana plan to those of surrounding states, and of states that have already submitted their state plans.

*******LUNCH BREAK*******

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

Item 12 CONTENT STANDARDS REVISION - 15 minutes Dr. Tim Tharp

Dr. Tharp reviewed the date revisions on the Content Standards Schedule discussed at the May BPE meeting and via conference call in August. Chair Carroll noted that the Social Studies Standards are in the very infancy stages of review at the Office of Public Instruction. Ms. Lacey noted that Social Studies discussions are already taking place in Great Falls Public Schools because they can't wait any longer. Discussion ensued regarding budget cuts and open positions at the OPI which will remain vacant for the time being.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to adopt the revised Content Standards. Motion seconded by Mr. Scott Stearns.

Dr. Tharp noted that as a Social Studies teacher he is disappointed they cannot move quicker. Ms. Bremner asked if a statement could be released encouraging schools to look at moving forward within their districts with new textbooks and curriculum.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Item 13)

Item 13 ASSESSMENT UPDATE – 20 minutes Jessica Eilertsen, Scott Furois

Ms. Eilertson reviewed the different tests used for assessment in Montana and then reviewed the Smarter Balanced Assessments for Montana for the 2016-17 school year. Results were broken down by district, subject matter, and for different student groups. Ms. Eilertson also reviewed the ACT results for the 2016-17 school year.

❖ ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Darlene Schottle (Items 14)

Item 14 PROPOSAL REQUESTING PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION OF THE NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM AT STONE CHILD COLLEGE – 20 minutes Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI Kadene Drummer, Teacher Education, SCC

Dr. Peterson reviewed the process for beginning this program. Dr. Drummer discussed Tribal Colleges, demographic makeup, how they were created, and how they are funded. Dr. Drummer then discussed specifically Stone Child College, why the program is needed for their students, who their students are, what the program will look like, and how they will go about starting out with the new program. Dr. Cindy

O'Dell discussed her role in assisting Stone Child College to develop this program and move forward on their own, and the importance of having "home grown" teachers to be able to teach on reservation schools. Dr. Peterson noted that the desk audit will be presented at the November meeting.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Tammy Lacey (Items 15-16)**

**Item 15 PROPOSAL REQUESTING A NEW DOUBLE MAJOR
ENDORSEMENT IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION
IN THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM AT CARROLL COLLEGE (CC) –
20 minutes**

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI

Dr. Robert Stansberry, Director of Teacher Education, CC

Dr. Peterson reviewed the process and timeline for the new combined programs at Carroll College. Dr. Robert Stansberry then reviewed the program for the board, the history of the program, and ongoing discussions regarding the need for this program at Carroll College, then reviewed the proposed new program for the Board. This item will be before the board for Action at the November meeting.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

**Item 16 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE STATE EXIT REPORT AND REGULAR
ACCREDITATION STATUS OF THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER
(EPP) IN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND ARTS AND SCIENCE AT
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHERN (MSUN) – 15 minutes**

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI

**Dr. Carol Reifschneider, Interim Dean, College of Education, Arts and
Science, and Nursing, MSUN**

Dr. Peterson reviewed for the Board that this is the final presentation of this item before the Board for action. Information items were presented to the Board in May and July.

**Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the State Exit Report and Regular
Accreditation Status of the EPP in the College of Education and Arts and
Science at Montana State University Northern. Mr. Jesse Barnhart
seconded the motion.**

***Ms. Lacey and Ms. Bremner spoke to the work the school has made in the
'Areas of Improvement'. Chair Carroll echoed those comments.***

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 17 REQUEST APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION OF
EMPLOYMENT PER ARM 10.57.107, AND UNUSAL CASES PER ARM
10.57.109, ADMINISTRATOR POSITION, HYSHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS – 15
minutes**

Kristine Thatcher

Ms. Kristine Thatcher presented an Emergency Authorization request to the Board. The school is requesting Emergency Authorization of an administrator, and Ms. Thatcher reviewed the supporting documentation with the Board requesting their action on this item.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the request for Emergency Authorization of employment as set forth in ARM 10.57.107 and allowed per ARM 10.57.109 Unusual Cases. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

Mr. Steve Meloy, MTSBA, went on record that MTSBA assisted the school with their search and although every effort was made, no satisfactory solutions were found.

Mr. Dennis Parman supported the motion and asked for clarification that the Board is not granting a license but employment for 1 year of an administrator position. Mr. Parman noted that this situation is indicative of the crisis that small schools are in, and that this is a last resort for these schools.

Ms. Lacey asked how the coordination took place at OPI so that the school does not receive an accreditation deviation. Ms. Thatcher explained that the school will be sent a letter of approval allowing them to note the position as filled with a licensed individual to report in the TEAMS file.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Item 18-19)

Item 18 SUICIDE PREVENTION IN SCHOOLS – 15 minutes Senator Edie McClafferty Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

Senator McClafferty reviewed the language for the Board as she has done in previous meetings. Board members asked questions and voiced concerns with some of the language drafted in the proposed language. Ms. Lacey gave some examples of possible legal issues the language could create and offered some proposed solutions.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

Item 19 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SUICIDE PREVENTION NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING TIMELINE – 15 minutes Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

Dr. Peterson introduced the timeline for the Negotiated Rulemaking process to the Board and discussed how that process will move forward. Dr. Peterson then requested the Board's approval to move forward with the process. Dr. Peterson fielded process questions from Board members.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the proposed Suicide Prevention Negotiated Rulemaking Timeline Draft. Motion seconded by Mr. Jesse Barnhart.

Comments from Mr. Parman regarding HB 381 effective July 1, 2017 and addressed concerns surrounding liability issues in the language.

Mr. Steve Meloy, MTSBA, addressed the Board discussing the relationship between the Legislature and the Board. MTSBA supports the proposed rule and thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Ms. Diane Fladmo, MEA-MFT spoke in support of moving the process forward and thanked the Board for their careful consideration.

Ms. Diane Burke, MTQEC also spoke in support.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

Ms. Anne Keith briefly reviewed a conference she attended recently.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS November 2-3, 2017

Committee Appointments – C

MACIE Annual Report

Assessment Update

Critical Quality Educator Shortage Area Report

Federal Update

Variance to Standards Requests & Renewals

Accreditation Report

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Update (Odd Years)

Annual Renewal Unit Providers List - C

MSDB Superintendent Performance Evaluation & Contract Extension Discussion

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Darlene Schottle seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 3:13 PM.

The Montana Board of Public Education is a Renewal Unit Provider. Attending a Board of Public Education Meeting may qualify you to receive renewal units. One hour of contact time = 1 renewal unit up to 8 renewal units per day. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for renewal units.

Times listed are approximate. Items may be rearranged unless listed "time certain". Action may be taken by the Board on any item listed on the agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items but time limits on public comment may be set at the Chair's discretion.

The Board of Public Education will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate in the meeting. Individuals who require such accommodations should make requests to the Board of Public

Education as soon as possible prior to the meeting start date. You may write to: Kris Stockton, PO Box 200601, Helena MT, 59620, email at: kmstockton@mt.gov or phone at 444-0302.